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Comments

RE: Patent Application No.: 10/574,068
Filing Date: March 30, 2006
Inventor: Alan J. Cook, et al
Title: Self-Cleaning Litter Box
Please file the attached:
Information Disclosure Statement (3 p.)
International Search Report (4 p.)
Form PTO/SB/08A (1 p.)

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/574,068
Filing Date: March 30, 2006
Inventor(s): Alan J. Cook, et al
Group Art Unit: Not Assigned
Examiner Name: Not Assigned
Attorney Docket No.: 330802-00004
Title: Self-Cleaning Litter Box

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Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This document is being filed pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

I. TIME OF FILING

- X This document is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) as it is believed to be filed:
- within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
 - X within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application;
 - before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or
 - before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

OR

_____ This document is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) as it is believed to be filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. This Statement is accompanied by one of:

_____ the following statements; or

_____ Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

_____ No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

_____ The fee set forth in § 1.17(p). Fee Transmittal Form PTO/SB/17 is attached.

OR

_____ This document is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) as it is believed to be filed on or before the payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by one of the following statements and the fee set forth in § 1.17(p). Fee Transmittal Form PTO/SB/17 is attached.

_____ Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

_____ No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or Form PTO/SB/08B be considered and made of record.

OR

_____ It is requested that this Statement and enclosures be placed in the file. It is understood that the cited references will not be considered by the Office.

Page 3 of 3

II. FOREIGN PATENT OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS (if applicable)

- X One or more of the items of information contained in the information disclosure statement were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.
- X A copy of the search report is attached.

III. COPIES OF CITED REFERENCES

Because this application was filed prior to June 30, 2003, copies of the document(s) listed on the attached Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B are attached.

OR

Because this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of non-U.S. patent citations as listed on the attached Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B are attached.

AND (if applicable)

X All cited U.S. pending (non-published) applications listed on Form PTO/SB/08A are stored in the USPTO's IFW system. Copies are therefore not provided.

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IV. REMARKS

The above constitutes information that an Examiner may find material to the examination of the subject application; however, it does not negate the patentability of the subject invention. Furthermore, it is not intended that submission of this information be taken as a representation that a search has been made or that no information which is more material exists.

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Date: 6/28/06

By:


John S. Paniaguas
Attorney or Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 31,051

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PTO/SB/08A (07-05)

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/574,068
Filing Date	March 30, 2006
First Named Inventor	Alan J. Cook, et al.
Art Unit	Not Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	330802-00004

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 5,931,119 A	08/03/1999	Nissan et al	see entire document
		US- 5,048,465 A	09/17/1991	Carlisi	see entire document
		US- 6,202,595 B1	03/20/2001	Atcravi	see entire document
		US- 1,514,291	11/04/1924	Kimber	lines 50-53
		US- 6,588,369 B2	07/08/2003	Carlisi	see entire document
		US- 6,568,348 B1	05/27/2003	Bedard	see entire document
		US- 6,378,461 B1	04/30/2002	Thaler et al	see entire document
		US- 5,477,812	12/26/1995	Waters	see entire document
		US- 6,205,954 B1	03/27/2001	Bogaens	see entire document
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document: Country Code ³ Number* Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Page, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		WO/2005/029948 A3	02/23/06	LUCKY LITTER LLC et al	see entire document	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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